1. What is this course about?

1.1 Description
This course introduces you to fundamental concepts of criminal law. You will examine some of the most serious offences—murder, manslaughter, sexual assault and assault—and some of the most common, such as drug, traffic and public order offences. While the primary focus will be Queensland law, you will also consider some Commonwealth offences. The course will assist you to understand the role and operation of the criminal law and criminal justice system, acquire knowledge of some of its major rules, and develop skills to critically evaluate its effectiveness.

1.2 Field trips, WIL placements or activities required by professional accreditation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable.</td>
<td>Not applicable.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. What level is this course?

100 level Introductory - Discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Normally associated with the first full-time year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units
4. **How does this course contribute to my learning?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Assessment tasks</th>
<th>Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:</td>
<td>You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:</td>
<td>Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of fundamental rules of the criminal</td>
<td>1, 2 and 3</td>
<td>Knowledgeable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>law in Queensland</td>
<td></td>
<td>Empowered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify legal issues, apply legal reasoning and reach arguable conclusions in response</td>
<td>1, 2 and 3</td>
<td>Knowledgeable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to a broad range of criminal law scenarios</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate a knowledge of ethical issues that may confront a criminal lawyer and an</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ethical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>understanding of appropriate professional responses to those issues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrates the skills of organisation and time management to complete problems</td>
<td>1, 2 and 3</td>
<td>Empowered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>within a set time.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. **Am I eligible to enrol in this course?**
Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1 **Enrolment restrictions**
Enrolled in any Law program

5.2 **Pre-requisites**
Nil

5.3 **Co-requisites**
LAW101

5.4 **Anti-requisites**
Nil

5.5 **Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)**
Nil

6. **How am I going to be assessed?**

6.1 **Grading scale**
Standard – High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL)

6.2 **Details of early feedback on progress**
In the tutorials in weeks 1-6, you will engage in activities that ask you to self-assess and reflect on your learning; and provide peer feedback on tutorial answers.
6.3 Assessment tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task No.</th>
<th>Assessment Product</th>
<th>Individual or Group</th>
<th>Weighting %</th>
<th>What is the duration / length?</th>
<th>When should I submit?</th>
<th>Where should I submit it?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Activity Participation</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>50-minute tutorial</td>
<td>Tutorials in weeks 1-13</td>
<td>In Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Written Piece</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>1500 words</td>
<td>Thursday, Week 6</td>
<td>Online Assignment Submission with Plagiarism check</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Examination</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>2 hours plus 30 minutes reading time</td>
<td>Central examination period</td>
<td>Exam Venue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment 1: Activity Participation

**Goal:** The goal of this task is to assess your ability to identify legal and ethical issues in factual problems that may confront a criminal lawyer and your capacity to suggest an appropriate professional response.

**Product:** Activity Participation

**Format:** Oral answers to tutorial questions in class. The tutorial questions will be released on Blackboard in week 1.

**Criteria:**
- Active participation during tutorials in weeks 1-13
- Identifies ethical issues that may confront a criminal lawyer in a factual problem;
- Explains the relevant rules of law derived from statute and case law;
- Applies analytical reasoning to the factual problem;
- Suggests an appropriate professional response; and
- Uses effective oral communication

Assessment Task 2: Written Piece

**Goal:** The goal of this written piece is to assess your knowledge and critical understanding of some of the fundamental rules of the criminal law. It will also assess your legal problem-solving skills, for example, your ability to identify legal issues in a factual problem, apply legal reasoning to it, and reach arguable conclusions.

**Product:** Written Piece

**Format:** This is an individual typewritten problem-solving grid prepared by a solicitor for a partner of a law firm. The maximum word limit is 1500 words.

**Criteria:**
- Identifies the relevant legal issues in the factual problem;
- Explains the relevant rules of criminal law derived from statute and case law;
- Applies analytical reasoning to the factual problem;
- Reaches arguable conclusions; and
- Uses effective communication.
Assessment Task 3: Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal:</th>
<th>The goal of this open book examination is to assess your knowledge and critical understanding of some of the fundamental rules of the criminal law. It will also assess your legal problem-solving skills, for example, your ability to identify legal issues in a factual problem, apply legal reasoning to it, and reach arguable conclusions.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Product:</td>
<td>Examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Format:</td>
<td>This is an individual handwritten open book examination completed during the central examination period. You will be given 2 hours of working time and 30 minutes perusal time. All topics covered in this course are potentially examinable. In preparation for this task, you will receive feedback on your problem-solving skills during tutorials and for assessment task 2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Criteria: | • Identifies the relevant legal issues in the factual problems;  
• Explains the relevant rules of criminal law derived from statute and case law;  
• Applies analytical reasoning to the factual problems; and  
• Reaches arguable conclusions. |

7. Directed study hours

The directed study hours listed here are a portion of the workload for this course. A 12 unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Directed study hours for location:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Sippy Downs | On campus Lecture: 2 hours per week (Week 1-6, 8-13)  
On campus Tutorial: 1 hour per week (Week 1-6, 8-13) |

*Week 7: Law OUT LOUD! Law School Activities and Competition Week

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note that course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site. Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1 Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below as they are required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burton, K, Crofts, T and Tarrant, S</td>
<td>2016, (2nd ed)</td>
<td>Principles of Criminal Law in Queensland and Western Australia</td>
<td>Thomson Reuters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burton, K</td>
<td>2015, (2nd ed)</td>
<td>LexisNexis Questions and Answers: Criminal Law in Queensland and Western Australia</td>
<td>LexisNexis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.2 Specific requirements

Nil
9. **How are risks managed in this course?**

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility as a student to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers, and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study. It is also your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the University’s general health and safety principles by reviewing the online Health Safety and Wellbeing training module for students, and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. **What administrative information is relevant to this course?**

10.1 **Assessment: Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2 **Assessment: Additional requirements**

**Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment**

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

c) You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3 **Assessment: Submission penalties**

Late submission of assessment tasks will be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task’s identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task’s identified value) for the third day
- 20% (of the assessment task’s identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late.

To request an extension, you must contact your Course Coordinator and supply the required documentation to negotiate an outcome.
10.4 Study help
In the first instance, you should contact your tutor, then the Course Coordinator. Additional assistance is provided to all students through Academic Skills Advisers. To book an appointment or find a drop-in session go to Student Hub.

Contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au

10.5 Links to relevant University policy and procedures
For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:
- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website:
http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching

10.6 General Enquiries
In person:
- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890
Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au